

Remarks:

This amendment is submitted in an earnest effort to advance this case to issue without delay. The examiner has indicated that the case contains allowable subject matter.

The specification has been amended to eliminate some minor obvious errors. No new matter whatsoever has been added.

Claims 22, 28, and 55 have been found to contain allowable subject matter. Accordingly:

1. The subject matter of claim 22, which originally depended via claim 19 on independent claim 1, has been inserted into claim 1, and claims 22 and 19 have been canceled. The subject matter of claim 19 was already in claim 1, so redundant claim 19 has been canceled.
2. Claim 28, which originally depended via claims 26 and 27 on claim 1, has been made independent by incorporation into it of the subject matter of original claims 1, 26, and 27. Claims 26 and 27 have been canceled.
3. Claim 55, which originally depended via claim 54 on claim 1, has been made independent by incorporation into it of the subject matter of original claims 1 and 55. Claim 55 has been canceled.

4. Various dependent claims made contradictory or redundant by amendment of their parent claims have been canceled, claim dependencies have been corrected as necessary, and claims 80-98 have been canceled.

Thus all the independent claims in the case contain allowable subject matter. The overall number of claims has been reduced, and the number of independent claims has not been increased. Thus all the claims are allowable and there is no extra-claim fee.

If only minor problems that could be corrected by means of a telephone conference stand in the way of allowance of this case, the examiner is invited to call the undersigned to make the necessary corrections.

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